

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend paragraph 59 as follows:

The call signaling message 31 is now received by one of the group members, for example by client B. Client B now sends a synchronization message 35 to client C and thus informs client C about the waiting call. Client C acknowledges receipt of this message 35 using an acknowledgement message ~~37~~ 36 on client B and, for its part, sends a synchronization message ~~36~~ 37 to client D, which in turn sends an acknowledgement message 38 to client C. Client D, as the last group member, then sends a final synchronization message 39 to client B, which synchronization message is in turn acknowledged on client D by client B using an acknowledgement message ~~40~~. ~~39~~. Each synchronization message sent contains a complete "history" of the previously informed clients. In addition, each received acknowledgement message is forwarded from the client which received this acknowledgement message to its "preceding" client. Furthermore, the clients are programmed such that if a client, for example, client C, is not available then this is registered by the preceding client (client B) after a waiting time has elapsed, and client B then sends a new synchronization message to the client with the next highest index descriptor, in this case client D. This ensures that even when clients have failed and are absent the synchronization cycle is completed and hence after the end of the synchronization cycle all the clients in the group contain the information about the available clients in the group, and it is thus definite which of the available clients has the lowest index number and therefore signals the call first. If this call signaled on the client with the lowest index number (in this exemplary embodiment client B) is not accepted, the client B called first sends an appropriate message to its successor client C (or in the case of one of the faults described to

client D), and itself stops signaling the call. If the call is now accepted on one of the clients, for example on client D, then client D sends an appropriate message for call transfer to client B (step c) as in the exemplary embodiment shown in FIG. 2b, which results in the communication link K4 being set up (step d).

Please amend paragraph 63 as follows:

Client A sets up a communication link K5a to a client B, client A being a customer, for example, which, as client B, is calling the telephone exchange in a company or department store. When the user of client B has received information about the desired contact from the caller (client A), client B sends a request message (51) to the client W used as waiting destination and in so doing requests the index number of a free park position. Client W sends client B the required park position number (e.g. "22") (step a); this park position number "22" is displayed on the display of client B. Client B now uses a message (52) to send client A the address information of client W, and asks client A from now on to continue the communication link K5a not with client B, but rather as a communication link K5b with client W. Subsequently, the communication link K5b between client A and client W has thus been set up, with client W sending client A waiting music or--in the case of multimedia clients--any desired multimedia contents for information and entertainment purposes. The user of client B now uses a message (53) to call the connection of a "paging installation" P in order to make an announcement (54) in the building (company; department store) which relates to the desired person and which comprises the park position number, that is to say for example "Herr Muller, 22 please". The person called in this way now goes to the next available client, client C, and activates a function on this client C in order to transfer parked communication links.

Please amend paragraph 64 as follows:

Since, in a larger communication network, a multiplicity of clients may be provided with position stores for waiting purposes, client C now sends a search message (55) (step b), in the form of a broadcast message, which contains the park position number 22 previously input by the sought person, to all the clients in the communication network. While clients A and B cannot allocate a park position number "22", client W responds to the search query (55) with a response message (56) which comprises not only the confirmation but also the address information of client W (step c). In addition, client W uses a diversion message (58) ~~(57)~~ to notify client A that the existing communication link now needs to be continued with client C as the communication partner, as a result of which the call (the communication link K5b) is forwarded such that the communication link K5c (the useful data channels) are from now on connected between client A and client C (step d).